

Occasional News Wrap - #87/July 2025



## **Modi's Global Sprint to Five Nations**

## Cementing India's Place in the Global South

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's whirlwind five-nation tour covering Ghana, Trinidad & Tobago, Argentina, Brazil, and Namibia marks a decisive diplomatic outreach toward the Global South. In Ghana, ties were elevated to a Comprehensive Partnership, with Indian firms poised to explore critical minerals and set up a vaccine hub. In Trinidad & Tobago, Modi was conferred the nation's highest civilian honour, reinforcing cultural and trade linkages. His visit to Argentina opened new avenues in drone technology, lithium cooperation, and energy dialogue.

In Brazil, during the BRICS Summit, India agreed to double bilateral trade and engaged on multilateral issues, while also advocating for a fair ASEAN-India FTA with Malaysia. Namibia adopted India's UPI system and honoured Modi, signalling a strong alignment in technology and democratic. These engagements not only reflect India's expanding strategic footprint but also reaffirm Modi's intent to reshape South-South cooperation through trade, technology, and diplomacy.

Op-eds	Key Takeaways
Why Modi's Ghana Visit Matters  The Hindu July 02, 2025	Prime Minister Narendra Modi's landmark visit to Ghana marked a new era in India-Ghana relations, with the elevation of ties to a Comprehensive Partnership. The two nations signed key agreements in trade, defence, digital infrastructure, and healthcare. Modi emphasised India's support for Ghana's development and called for unity across the Global South, reinforcing India's strategic presence in West Africa.
Indian Firms to Explore Minerals in Ghana Swarajya July 03, 2025	During PM Modi's historic visit to Ghana, India and Ghana elevated their ties to a Comprehensive Partnership, marking the first such visit in over 30 years. Both countries also aim to double bilateral trade within five years. Cooperation is set to expand in FinTech, agriculture, healthcare, defence, and counter-terrorism, with India pledging to support for Ghana's development and regional stability.
Indo-Ghana Ties Get a Boost  The Economic Times  July 02, 2025	India and Ghana are working to establish a vaccine hub for West Africa. and collaborate on agriculture, defence, critical minerals, and digital infrastructure. The partnership reflects mutual interests in promoting economic growth, health security, and resilient digital infrastructure, underlining deepening engagement across priority sectors
Trinidad Honours Modi, Reactions Mixed  The Guardian July 06, 2025	PM Modi's visit to Trinidad & Tobago marked a diplomatic milestone, the <u>first by an Indian PM in 25 years</u> . He was warmly welcomed and conferred the country's highest civilian honour. The visit celebrated longstanding diaspora ties, led to the signing of six bilateral agreements, and deepened cooperation in trade, energy, technology, and culture.
3 Key Takeaways from Modi's Brazil Visit  The Indian Express July 06, 2025	PM Modi's Brazil visit, the first in decades by an Indian PM, reinforced <u>India-Brazil</u> ties across trade, tech, defence, and energy. Attending the BRICS Summit, he pushed for stronger multilateral cooperation. Warm cultural and diaspora connections added a historic depth to the visit, paving the way for enhanced strategic partnerships.

Op-eds	Key Takeaways
Modi's Argentina Visit Signals Shift  The Print July 06, 2025	PM Modi's visit to Argentina underscored the country's growing strategic importance for India. With vast reserves of lithium and shale oil, <u>Argentina offers</u> critical lessons in resource exploration and liberal economic policy. India aims to secure access to key minerals and expand domestic processing, while reassessing its broader energy and resource strategies.
India-Argentina Eye Drone Partnership Rising Kashmir July 06, 2025	The two countries explored a partnership in drone technology for applications, including using drones to combatting illegal fishing, managing cattle, enhancing agricultural productivity, and monitoring power infrastructure. Modi also invited Argentina to join the International Big Cat Alliance in highlighting wildlife conservation as a shared priority.
Modi-Malaysian PM Discuss ASEAN-India FTA at BRICS Business Standard July 07, 2025	PM Modi and Malaysian PM Anwar Ibrahim met during the <u>BRICS Summit in Brazil</u> to review bilateral ties and regional security. They called for the early conclusion of the ASEAN-India Free Trade Agreement review, aiming to address trade imbalances. Discussions also covered cooperation in defence, education, healthcare, and multilateral forums.
Modi-Lula Set US\$20bn Trade Goal Economic Times July 09, 2025	Noting ample <u>opportunities</u> for <u>diversifying</u> and expanding bilateral trade, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva have set a target of US\$20bn to be achieved over the next five years.
India's Africa Goal: 'Build Together' The Hindu July 10, 2025	During his address to Namibia's Parliament, PM Modi emphasised India's commitment to cooperation over competition in Africa. He lauded Namibia's adoption of India's UPI system, praised shared democratic values, and announced agreements in healthcare and entrepreneurship. Modi was also conferred Namibia's highest civilian honour.

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Modi Wraps-up 5-Nation Tour News On Air July 10, 2025	PM Modi concluded a landmark five-nation tour to Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Brazil, and Namibia, by significantly deepening India's engagement with the Global South. Key outcomes included MoUs in health and entrepreneurship, expanded mineral cooperation, technology partnerships, and digital infrastructure agreements, alongside high-level diplomatic recognition in multiple countries.